



3) We Must _____ Lives That Point to the _____

→ *Remember: How we handle _____ is more powerful than how we handle success.*

Luke 6:32-35 – “For if ye love them which love you, what thank have ye? for sinners also love those that love them... But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil.”

→ **Love Life!** *Let the Light of Jesus _____ out of you!*

Matthew 5:14-16 – “Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”



Ready to Give an Answer

Answering the tough questions with our words and with our lives

Part 1: “The Call to Be Ready”

The Text: 1st Peter 3:12-17

3:12-14 – We’re in a Spiritual _____

John 15:18-20 – “If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you... Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also.”

→ **War is _____: but *better* to be opposed by men, than by God!**

Matthew 10:28-31 – “And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows.”

→ **Suffering is _____: but it’s *better* to suffer for doing right!**

Acts 5:40-41 – “and when they had called the apostles, and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.”

→ **There is TRUE _____ in being on God’s side**

Hebrews 13:5-6 – “...for He hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.”

2 Timothy 1:12 – “For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.”

5:15 – Ready to Give a _____ and _____ Answer

“Sanctify” = *hagiazō* = venerate, make special, acknowledge as holy

“Ready” = *hetoimos* = prepared, close at hand, made ready

“Answer” = *apologia* = a defense, a reasoned argument, an answer

Act 22:1 – “Men, brethren, and fathers, hear ye my **defense** (*apologia*) which I make now unto you.”

“Meekness” = *prautēs* = a gentle spirit, under control, humility

2 Timothy 2:24-25 – “And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, in meekness (*praotēs*) instructing those that oppose themselves”

5:16-17 – Give an Answer with our Words AND our _____

“Conversation” = *anastrophē* = manner of life, conduct, behavior

James 3:13 – “Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation (*anastrophe*) his works with meekness of wisdom.”

“You may be the only Bible some person ever reads”

- William J. Toms

How can we be Ready to give an Answer to the hard questions?



1) We Must be _____ About What We Believe

→ It's not enough to just know what our _____ believes or what the pastor believes... we must know it _____

→ To be stable in a crisis, or when _____, our beliefs must be both _____ and Personal

Acts 4:18-20 – “And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye [**Reasoned**]. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard. [**Personal**]”



2) We Should _____ to Prepare a Solid Answer

→ Honestly _____ the hard questions

John 8:32 – “And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

→ _____ the Bible to know the Answer

2 Timothy 2:15 – “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

→ _____ the questioner, before giving an answer

2 Timothy 2:23-24 – “But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes. And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient...”

3 Kinds of _____

Disciples: _____ of Christ who are looking to learn

= need a clear answer from the Bible

John 8:31 – “Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed”

Skeptics: unconvinced, confused, _____

= need reasonable and thoughtful answers from the Bible, from logic, and from our lives.

1 Peter 3:15 – “and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear”

Scoffers: mocking, uninterested, _____

= need a humble answer to turn away wrath

Proverbs 15:1-2 – “A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger. The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright: but the mouth of fools poureth out foolishness.”

In this series, we'll be studying how to give an answer to each of these 3 kinds of questioners on topics including:

How did we get the Bible? Has the Bible been corrupted and had books removed? Isn't it better to be Spiritual without being Religious? Why would a good God allow suffering? Isn't love just love (LGBTQIA+)? Hasn't science disproved parts of the Bible? Why are there so many Christian Hypocrites?
and more...

email if you'd like to suggest a question! PastorJosh@SpokaneBaptist.com